

VI. BENCHMARKING

Benchmarking is a process used to evaluate progress. In the case of Newtown's updated Plan of Conservation and Development, the Action Agenda section of the Plan was formatted with a "Status" feature to enable the evaluation of progress made in accomplishing specific plan recommendations.

It is suggested that the Planning and Zoning Commission annually review the status of each of the Plan's recommended actions. The results of this annual review can be provided to the municipal entities responsible for implementation actions, accompanied by "well done" for actions completed or underway and a request for comment on recommendations not addressed. This review will provide the Commission with the information needed to provide an annual report to the community on the status of the Plan. It is suggested that this review take place in the Fall, in advance of the preparation of preliminary budget estimates by Town departments, boards and commissions.

It is also recommended that the Commission review the results of actions completed to assess the extent to which completed actions satisfy the accompanying goals.